

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A method of selecting a digital photographic service provider from a plurality of different service providers and providing a photographic image service with respect to at least one digital image located at a user location remote from said selected photographic service provider, comprising:

- a) providing a services directory which includes entries for a plurality of different service providers;
- b) said user providing a criterion for selection of a service provider;
- c) automatically providing the requester with a list of one or more of said plurality of different service providers based on said criterion;
- d) said requester selecting one of said plurality of different service providers from said list;
- e) providing a request for a desired service to the selected service provider; and
- f) providing of said desired service by said selected service provider.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the criterion comprises a location of a designated recipient.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the criterion is selected from at least one of the following:

Brand of image capture device

Language

Retailer

Cost of service

Specific Product characteristics

Delivery time

Delivery method

Delivery reach

Specific provider characteristics

Access time

Ability to ship to specific location.

4. The method according to claim 1 wherein said automatically providing of said list is accomplished through the use of a locator service.
5. The method according to claim 1 wherein said list includes service information for each of the service providers
6. The method according to claim 1 further including the step of providing an icon for the selected service provider
7. The method according to claim 6 wherein the icon for the selected service provider is displayed in a user interface screen.
8. The method according to claim 7 wherein the icon for the selected service provider is displayed in place of a generic icon.
9. The method according to claim 7 wherein the icon for the selected service provider comprises a trademark.
10. The method according to claim 1 wherein said requester selecting one of said plurality of different service providers from said list further comprises displaying a list of service providers and service information for at least one of the listed service providers .
11. The method according to claim 1 wherein said criterion is directly associated with data included in the digital image file.

12. A method according to claim 11 wherein said data includes the camera manufacturer

13. A method according to claim 1 wherein the service provider is positioned on the display screen of imaging client according to a business criteria.

14. A method according to claim 13 wherein said business criteria is based on a retailer who sold the digital camera.

15. A method according to claim 13 wherein said business criteria is based on a digital camera make.

16. A method according to claim 13 wherein said business criteria is based on a language selected by the user.

17. A method according to claim 1 further including the step of selected digital images captured by the digital camera

18. A method according to claim 17 wherein the selected service is producing hardcopy prints of the selected images.

19. A method according to claim 18 further including the step of selecting a print quantity for the selected images.

20. A system for providing imaging services over a communications network, including:

- a) a first device having a user interface for receiving commands from a user and a network interface,

- b) a plurality of different service providers connected to said communication network,
- c) a computer having a network interface for communication to said first device over said communication network, wherein said computer having a services directory having entries for a plurality of different service providers, each of said plurality of different service providers having associated information,
- d) wherein the user, using said first device, provides at least one criterion
- e) said computer automatically provides a list of at least one of said plurality of different service providers based on the criterion, using said associated information,
- f) said selected service provider providing said requested service.

21. A computer software product for linking a digital camera user to a service provider selected from a plurality of service providers, said computer software program will when loaded on to a computer will cause the computer to do the following steps:

- a) providing a services directory which includes entries for a plurality of service providers;
- b) communicating at least one criterion from the digital camera user;
- c) automatically providing the digital camera user with a list of one or more of said plurality of different service providers based on the criterion;
- d) said digital camera user selecting one of said plurality of different service providers from said list;
- e) providing a request for a desired service to the selected service provider,
- f) providing of said desired service by said selected service provider.

f) providing of said desired service by said selected service provider.